

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-12, and 14-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 12 and 14 have been amended. Claim 16 is newly added. Claims 1, 12, and 14 are independent claims.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 16 includes the same subject matter as previously pending claim 13 (which was canceled in the Amendment filed July 24, 2007). Thus, the filing of claim 16 does not add new matter.

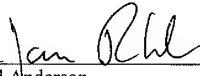
It is respectfully submitted that the arguments in the Amendment filed July 24, 2007 apply to the claims as amended herein. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a Notice of Allowance in the present application.

Should the Examiner believe that any outstanding matters remain in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Jason W. Rhodes (Reg. No. 47,305) at the telephone number of the undersigned to discuss the present application in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: September 18, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By  #47,305
for D. Richard Anderson
Registration No.: 40,439
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant